

**ENGINEERING AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY MINUTES
Wednesday, January 7, 2026
4:15 p.m.**

ATTENDANCE 

Directors: James Gunther (Chair), Judy Huang
Staff: Ed Stevenson, Girum Awoke, Shehroz Mirza
Public: None

This meeting was conducted in person at the District's Headquarters and virtually by Zoom Webinar and Teleconference, and members of the public were invited to participate. Materials presented to the Committee were posted in advance of the meeting at www.acwd.org and copies of materials as presented are attached to these minutes.

DISCUSSION TOPICS

1. Public Comments: There were no members of the public in attendance.
2. Engineering and Technology Services (ETS) Department New Employee Introductions: In accordance with a new District initiative to allow Board members to get to know staff and learn about their respective roles and responsibilities, Girum Awoke, Director of Engineering and Technology, and Sean O'Reilly, Development Services Manager introduced newly hired ETS staff to the Committee. Mr. Awoke and Mr. O'Reilly informed the Committee about each new staff member, their background and areas of expertise, and how they will contribute to advancing the mission of the District. The new staff members introduced were Kevin Fitzsimmons, Chief Information Security Officer, and Development Services Technicians Kayley Zabinski, Zoe Chapman-Parish, and Evelyn Trejo Camargo.

The Committee welcomed the new team members.

3. Dairy Avenue and H Street Main Renewal Project Update: Chris Delp, Project Engineering Supervisor, provided an update on the Dairy Avenue and H Street Main Renewal Project (Project) that is installing approximately one mile of pipe in Newark and Union City. Mr. Delp indicated that the Project was started in the fall of 2024 and is now nearing completion. The new main is in service and approximately 100 customer connections have been transferred; only several small punch list items remain.

Mr. Delp highlighted unique project features including the Project's proximation to a large school and the use of temporary bypasses. Mr. Delp explained that a new main was installed on H Street directly in front of James Logan High School in Union City. Staff coordinated working hours with City of Union City and school staff in advance, and construction started during a holiday break and continued thereafter with very limited working hours to avoid traffic and student impacts. In both Newark and Union City, portions of the new water main were installed along the original alignment of the existing water main and in the same trench. To remove the old main prior to installation of the new main, temporary bypass pipes were

required to maintain service to customers. Proactive public outreach helped customers understand the need for bypasses and preempted negative feedback regarding bypass impacts. Upon completion of the punch list items, staff anticipates requesting Board authorization of Change Order No. 1, a time extension for excusable delays, and acceptance of the Project, which is tentatively scheduled for the February 2026 Board meeting.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Topics discussed by the Committee were informational only, and no recommendations were being made.

Engineering and Information Technology Committee Briefing

Main Renewal Dairy Avenue and H Street Project Update



Shehroz Mirza
Project Engineer

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Project Background

- Project Objective: renew small diameter pipes with greatest propensity for leaks
- Length: Approximately 1 mile
- Number of Service Connections: ~100
- Contractor: JMB Construction, Inc.
- Awarded Construction Contract Value: \$4.97M
- Board approved Change order allocation: 7% of contract (\$347,000)
- Notice to Proceed Issued: September 11, 2024

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Location – Union City



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Location - Newark



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Unique Project Elements/Challenges



Proximity to James Logan High School



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Unique Project Elements/Challenges



Proximity to James Logan High School



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Unique Project Elements/Opportunities



Above-ground bypass with service connections in Newark and Union City

Unique Project Elements/Opportunities



Above-ground bypass with service connections in Newark and Union City

Project Status

- Construction
 - All customers transitioned to new services
 - Paving work complete
 - Two minor punchlist items remain
- Change Orders
 - Change Order 1 planned to be recommended at project acceptance
 - Change Order Value: ~\$870k, or 18% due to a combination of unforeseen conditions, implementation of Schedule B items, and additional pavement



Next Steps

- Construction
 - Complete punchlist items to satisfaction of ACWD and City
- Recommended Board Action (tentative, February 2026 Board meeting)
 - Approve Change Order No. 1
 - Approve a time extension for excusable delays
 - Adopt a resolution accepting completion of the project



Questions?